

Village of Los Lunas



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Village Council Approves Capital Improvement Projects

The Village Council has approved the local infrastructure capital improvement plan. This plan details improvements planned over the next four years and includes anticipated costs as well as potential funding sources for projects. A project may be on this list for a specific year but might be moved up or down because of funding.

Projects for Fiscal Year 2004-2005 include: Carson Drive drainage improvements; Luna Hills street/water/sewer project; detailed traffic movement analysis; final library enhancement; addition to the Daniel Fernandez Youth Center; and Juan Perea Road realignment.

Also for 2004-2005: Archuleta building renovations; new transportation building; street repair and replacement; NM 314/Morris Road traffic light; 30-acre park/fields; Enchantment Little League fields; wastewater plant expansion; Don Pasqual land acquisition; and land-fill/compost study.

Projects which go over into 2005-2006 are the Luna Hills Project; street repair; 30-acre park/field; Enchantment fields; and the Wastewater Treatment Plant expansion.

Projects for 2005-2006 include: NM 6 reconstruction from Don Pasqual to Highway 314; improvements to the village administrative building; police department/dispatch expansion; recycle center storage cover; east side recycle center; and improvements to Sandoval and Sichler Road and River Park.

A \$14 million project planned for 2006-2007 deals with the new arse-

nic requirements for the village's water system.

Projects for Fiscal Years 2007,

2008 and 2009 are included in this report which is available on the village website www.loslunasnm.gov.

Village Librarian Retires

Carmen Jaramillo Campos has retired after 27 years as the librarian for the Village of Los Lunas.

The Village Council has acknowledged her long service. Mayor Huning told her "you have gone through the ups and downs of our library and you certainly had a part in producing the new library."

Councilor Gerard Sais said "It's

certainly not going to be the same library without you."

Councilor Charles Griego said he remembers when she started the first library under the water tower (at the corner of Main Street and Luna Avenue). The library is now located farther east on Main Street.

Councilor Cecilia CC Castillo wished Campos the best of luck.



Loan for Luna Hills Project

Mayor Louis F. Huning, far left, holds a facsimile check from the New Mexico Environment Department for a \$3 million loan which will enable the village to begin the Luna Hills Project. Left to right from Huning are Village Councilors Charles Griego and Cecilia CC Castillo, Village Administrator Phillip Jaramillo, Councilor Gerard Sais and NM Environment Department Administrative Services Division Director Rick Martinez. Castillo represents the Luna Hills area on the village council. See story about the loan and project on Page 2.

Beautification Program Clean Up Village

Students involved in the Village of Los Lunas July, 2004, Beautification Program cut and raked weeds along west Main Street (Highway 6), Camelot Boulevard, and Juan Perea Road. Trash was picked up on north and south Highway 314, Don Pasqual Road, Tondre Road, South Los Lentos, Main Street east of the Rio Grande to Albertson's, Heritage Park, Lujan Road and Emilio Lopez Road. More than 35 bags of trash were collected.

Coordinator Marie Marquez said sometimes people pulled over to thank those working for a job well done. Marquez said the goal of the program is provide a lesson to students in community participation and make others aware of the litter problem in the community.

When the two-week program ended a barbecue was held at the Daniel Fernandez Park. Vanessa Garcia, Jeff McCreary and Nathan Garcia received gift certificates for showing excellent work performance, respect, good discipline at all times and completing all tasks assigned to them at all times. Adrienne Sanchez and Vanessa Trujillo were also presented with a gift for assisting with the supervision of students.



Students and supervisor Marie Marquez work on Main Street during Beautification Program.

Loan Means Start of Luna Hills Project

On June 24, the Village and the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) formally executed the \$3,018,866 funding agreement which will help pay for needed improvements to the village's storm water system.

The agreement will be used along with federal grants and village money to fund the Luna Hills Project.

The neighborhood where this project is located was constructed prior to annexation into the village and does not meet village drainage standards. In addition many of the facilities have deteriorated over the years since the initial construction in the early 1980s.

The village has proposed the construction of new drainage facilities to control storm water runoff and drainage, explains a press release from the NMED. With the installation of storm drain pipes and catch basins,

expansion and improvements to the existing retention ponds and other improvements approved by the NMED, the village will better protect public health and ensure compliance with environmental regulations.

To help speed the construction of this project, the NMED has worked closely with the village in providing technical assistance, administrative support and in streamlining federal and state requirements.

The funding is provided through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, a program administered by NMED for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). This program provides low cost loans to New Mexico communities and helps protect water quality throughout the State. Through this program, the Village of Los Lunas qualifies for a 2% loan that will be amortized over a twenty-year term.

Bids for work on the Luna Hill project were expected in early August and work to begin this fall.

Attend A Council Meeting!

The Los Lunas Village Council meets twice a month in the village council chambers in the administrative building on the corner of Don Pasqual and Main Street.

Meeting dates for the remainder of 2004 are:

August 12 & 26

September 9 & 23

October 7 & 21

November 4 & 18

December 16 & 30

Meetings begin at 6 p.m. Once in a while meetings are rescheduled so check with village officials at 839-3840 to be sure a meeting has not been changed.

The agenda will be available at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the scheduled meeting from the bulletin board located in the lobby of the Administration Office, located at 660 Main Street, Los Lunas, NM; the Los Lunas Library located at 460 Main Street in Los Lunas, NM; and posted on the village website (address: www.loslunasnm.gov).

HAUNTED HOUSE

OCTOBER 31 5 PM - 9 PM

A SPOOKTACULAR EVENT

CALL PARKS & RECREATION

352-3584 FOR INFORMATION



VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Louis F. Huning Mayor

Councilors

Cecilia CC Castillo Charles Griego

Gerard Saiz Robert Vialpando

Municipal Judge Jeff Aragon

Village Administrator

Phillip Jaramillo Master Municipal Clerk

Chief of Police Nick Balido

Los Lunas Willing To Pay \$4,000 Per Acre Foot of Water Rights

The Village of Los Lunas would like to purchase and transfer pre-1907 irrigation water rights to the Village water system.

Although Los Lunas has acquired rights adequate to meet current demand and most future residential demand for water, the Village is willing to purchase additional rights that may soon be considered abandoned and lost as a resource to the community. Therefore, the Village is particularly interested in purchasing rights associated with land that has not been irrigated in the past 12-15 years.

Village staff would like to meet with any resident interested in selling his or her water rights. "The Village is not interested in forcing anyone to sell their rights," said Village Administrator Phillip Jaramillo. "However, if someone is no longer using their rights for irrigation, they could make sure that a valuable resource stays in

the community and make some money."

If land has not been irrigated for 16 years, it is possible that the State Engineer could determine that the rights have been abandoned. Transferring rights to the Village is one way to protect water rights.

Jaramillo indicated Los Lunas would be willing to make purchases for amounts as small as two acre feet of consumptive use rights. This is about the amount of water needed to irrigate one acre of land. The Village will pay \$4,000 per acre foot of water rights.

If an individual wishes to sell his or her rights, the Village will ensure that the rights are researched and transferred to the municipal system. The owner will not have to pay any costs before the transfer is approved.

Jaramillo encourages any citizen who might be interested in selling irrigation rights to the Village to contact him at 505 839-3840.

Program Looks at Sharing Transportation Resources

The Village will participate in a pilot program that state officials hope will make public transportation more efficient in smaller communities.

United We Ride will look at how Valencia County communities can share their resources of vans, drivers and money so that more citizens can be served.

One of the first steps in the program is to take an inventory of the amount of funding, number of customers and number of vehicles available throughout Valencia County.

Identify Address for Safety

Placing easily-seen identification numbers on your property is something that should be done as a safety measure.

Large numbers make it much easier for emergency workers to identify a location.

Village ordinances say "owners of all properties containing buildings should number such properties at the expense of the owners with durable numerals at least three inches high in such manner and location as to be plainly visible from the street."

**VISIT THE
VILLAGE WEBSITE**
www.loslunasnm.gov



Village Councilor Cecilia CC Castillo, left, served as Mayor Pro Tem of the Village Council June 2003-June 2004. Councilor Charles Griego was elected by the council to serve as Mayor Pro Tem June 2004-June 2005 at a June meeting. Councilors rotate the job of Mayor Pro Tem on a yearly basis to give everyone an opportunity to perform this service. The Mayor Pro Tem fills in for the Mayor of Los Lunas when the mayor can't be at a meeting or attend events.

River Park Stackwalls Are Result of Collaboration

If you glance over at River Park as you're driving on Main Street on the east side of the Rio Grande you may see two walls in the heart of that park. Those walls are the unusual (for New Mexico) result of a collaboration between the Village of Los Lunas and Trees New Mexico.

The walls are stackwalls, one of conifer and the other of Russian olive, mulberry and elm. They were created from the wood cleaned out of 35 acres of the bosque by prison inmates.

New to the southwest, the walls are centuries old in other parts of the world such as Norway, Canada and some New England states.

Built last summer, the walls have been tested for compression and tension. Possible uses for such walls, according to Trees New Mexico Executive Director Suzanne Probart, include sound barriers on interstates and highways or even home construction.

The ultimate goal of this collaborative project between Trees New Mexico and the village is to find a renewable resource that could bring monetary and employment growth to Valencia County. This could happen in the future.

In the meantime, the stackwalls will be used in the creation of a natural pavilion in the River Park. Once finished, the pavilion could be used for outdoor performances, assemblies or other public gatherings.

New Subdivisions

Two new housing subdivisions are being developed in Los Lunas -- Pulte Homes will be building off Los Cerritos and ground should be broken soon for Huning Ranch on the west side of Interstate 25.

Infrastructure Projects Proceeding Throughout the Village

Several village streets will be repaved and/or undergo improvements to drainage or have estate curbs or sidewalks added over the next months. These include Colonial Avenue, Gallahad Street, Wittwer Court, Tafoya Road, Cinder Lane, Olympia Circle and Mesa Cruzada.

The replacement of Lift Station #4 will be going out to bid. The station is located in Carson Park. The new station will be east of the current one. Work is anticipated to start in Fall, 2004.

Work has begun on the design of the expansion to the village's wastewater treatment plant.

Cleaning Up Los Lunas

The Village's Annual Trek for Trash will be Saturday, September 25 beginning at 7 am at the Village Administration building at Don Pasqual and Main Street. If you're interested in participating call coordinator Marie Marquez at 352-7658.

In addition, the village will be the last stop for the state's annual Trek for Trash. Participants will start in southern New Mexico and visit several communities before arriving in Los Lunas where they will enjoy dinner and an overnight stay before leaving for their homes. Help is needed for this project. If you are interested then call Marie Marquez at 352-7658.

Be Careful!
School's Back in Session!
Protect Our Kids

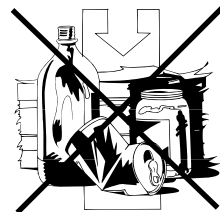
LET'S CLEAN UP LOS LUNAS

COME JOIN US AT THE VILLAGE'S ANNUAL

TREK FOR TRASH

Saturday, September 25 7:00 AM - Noon

CALL MARIE MARQUEZ FOR DETAILS 352-7658



OR CHECK THE VILLAGE WEBSITE www.loslunasnm.gov